

THE PORT AUTHORITY OF NY & NJ

Law Department

*4 World Trade Center
150 Greenwich Street
New York, NY 10007*

November 25, 2019

Mr. Brian Waters
MuckRock news
Dept. MR 82144, 411A Highland Avenue
Somerville, MA 021442516
Email: 821444-82439185@requests.muckrock.com

Re: Public Records Access No. 21025

Dear Mr. Waters:

This is in response to your October 30, 2019 email regarding your October 24, 2019 request, which has been assigned the above-referenced filing number under the Port Authority's Public Records Access Policy.

Thank you for your efforts to revise your request. Please be advised that item (4) remains unclear and overly broad. Please define what is meant by "technical documentation" and describe or identify the specific records you are seeking, with particularity and detail, when referring to "documentation regarding the technology."

If we don't hear from you one way or another within five business days, we will close this request. If we do hear from you within five business days, we will begin our work.

Very truly yours,



William Shalewitz
FOI Administrator

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The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey
FOIL Office
4 World Trade Center, 25th Floor
150 Greenwich Street
New York, NY, NY 10007

October 30, 2019

This is a follow up to a previous request:

Mr. Shalewitz,

Thank you for your response to my request regarding millimeter wave cameras. In my request, I asked for four bulleted items, which you wrote were overly broad. I have removed one item and attempted to clarify the remaining items here:

- 2) Reports describing the results of the technology test. The test was carried out in collaboration with the TSA between August 13-15, 2018. (News articles describing the test are linked below.) Presumably, officers or analysts who took part in the test would have drafted an internal memo or report describing the test and its results, so that management or other stakeholders can make informed decisions about the technology. Unfortunately, I cannot know precisely what your agency might call a report like this. Please let me know if this item is still unclear.
- 3) Department policy describing how the technology is to be used. If such a policy has been written, it might be found alongside your agency's policies for use of force, body worn cameras, etc. Furthermore, I am requesting legal analyses regarding the technology. Such an analysis or report may have been carried out by your agency's general counsel, or by a state attorney general.
- 4) Technical documentation regarding the technology. Documentation would be provided by technology manufacturers ThruVision or QinetiQ. Technical documentation can take many forms, including user manuals, maintenance or service manuals, spec sheets or data sheets, or technical reports.

To aid in your search, please know that the technology may go by several names:

- passive millimeter
- millimeter wave camera or millimeter wave scanner
- terahertz camera or terahertz scanner
- standoff explosion detection device

and is manufactured by ThruVision or QinetiQ. For reference, two news articles describing Port Authority's test of the technology are available here:

<https://nypost.com/2018/08/14/port-authority-tests-new-security-tech-that-scans-passersby/>
<https://www.fox5ny.com/news/port-authority-cops-test-weapons-scanners>

Thank you for your work here, and please let me know if items 2), 3), or 4) remain unclear. I look forward to hearing back.

Thank you,
Brian Waters

Filed via MuckRock.com

E-mail (Preferred): 82144-82439185@requests.muckrock.com

Upload documents directly:

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For mailed responses, please address (see note):

MuckRock News
DEPT MR 82144
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

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On Oct. 30, 2019:

Subject: Public Records Access Request No. 21025

Please see attached.

Thank you,

[cid:image001.png@01CED712.B2F61D20]

4 World Trade Center

150 Greenwich Street, New York, NY 10007

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On Oct. 24, 2019:

Subject: New York Freedom of Information Law Request: Millimeter wave scanner tests w/ TSA (The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey)

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the New York Freedom of Information Law, I hereby request information about your agency's use of millimeter wave scanning technology. The technology is manufactured by companies such as ThruVision and QinetiQ, and your agency has tested the technology in cooperation with the Transportation Security Administration. News

articles describing the technology and the tests conducted with the TSA are available here:
<https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/breaking/ct-tsa-metra-bomb-scanner-testing-20191015-jb5eb5twtrg33igvt3gvt2jmiy-story.html>
<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/will-l-a-s-anti-terrorist-subway-scanners-be-adopted-everywhere/>

Specifically, I am requesting the following documents:

- 1) Any documents describing the scope, duration, or location of millimeter wave technology tests with the TSA.
- 2) Copies of any reports or assessments written describing the results of the tests.
- 3) Any policies describing how the technology is used, and any legal analyses or studies that may have been carried out which deal with the technology.
- 4) A copy of all technical documentation regarding the technology. Please search your records for user manuals, maintenance or service manuals, studies or reports, spec sheets or data sheets, or any other such documentation.

The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.

In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter.

I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 5 business days, as the statute requires.

Sincerely,

Brian Waters

Filed via MuckRock.com

E-mail (Preferred): 82144-82439185@requests.muckrock.com

Upload documents directly:

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